



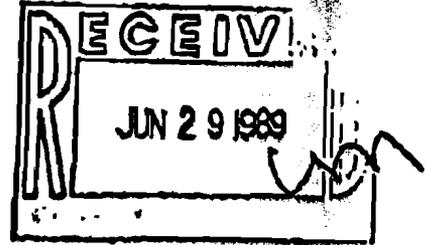
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Ecological Services

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Suite D, 3530 Pan American Highway, NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87107

Cons. #2-22-89-J-107

May 26, 1989



Mr. Jack B. Tillman
Project Manager
Department of Energy
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Project Office
P. O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

Dear Mr. Tillman:

This responds to your letter dated May 19, 1989 requesting an update of the 1979 consultation regarding the affects of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) on species Federally listed or proposed to be listed as threatened or endangered. Your geographic area of interest is T22S, R31E, Sections 15-22 and 27-34 of eastern Eddy County, New Mexico.

We have reviewed the 1979 list of species occurring in the project area and find there are none that should be added at this time. However, the black-footed ferret should be removed. The current list should then include the American peregrine falcon, bald eagle, Pecos gambusia and Lea's pincushion cactus.

We suggest you contact the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department for information concerning fish, wildlife and plants of State concern.

If we can be of further assistance, please call Jerry Burton at (505) 883-7877 or FTS 474-7877.

Sincerely yours,

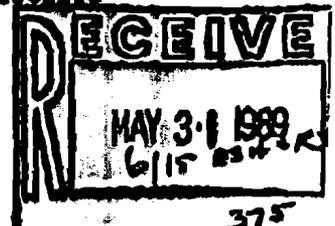
John C. Peterson
John C. Peterson
Field Supervisor

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Enclosure

cc: (w/cy encl)

Director, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Santa Fe, New Mexico
Director, New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources, Forestry
Division, Santa Fe, New Mexico
Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Fish and Wildlife
Enhancement, Albuquerque, New Mexico



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SPECIES LIST

Department of Energy
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant
Eddy County, New Mexico

May 26, 1989

American Peregrine Falcon (Falco peregrinus anatum) - The peregrine falcon prefers areas with steep rocky cliffs in close proximity to water. Preferred habitat contains dense bird populations in conjunction with large gulfs of air such as in canyons.

Authority: John P. Hubbard, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, State Capitol, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503, (505) 827-7952.

Bald Eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus) - Occupies New Mexico primarily as a winter resident, but also occurs as a migrant with several nestings in the State. Roosts in large trees which may or may not be close to their feeding areas. Bald eagles are found in riparian areas adjacent to rivers, reservoirs, and ponds. Rabbits, fish and waterfowl are their primary prey items.

Authority: John P. Hubbard, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, State Capitol, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503, (505) 827-7952.

Pecos Gambusia (Gambusia nobilis) - This species is found in the Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Chaves County.

Authority: Jim Johnson, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P. O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103, (505) 766-333972.

Lee Pincushion Cactus (Coryphantha sneedii var. leei) - this species occurs on the eastern edge of the Guadalupe Mountains on limestone slopes, ledges and ridge-tops, 4,100-5,900 feet.

Authority: Paul Knight, New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, Forestry Division, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503, (505) 827-7866.

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